

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently amended). A cleat device mountable to a supporting structure for having a cable or rope that supports a load laced thereto, comprising a base having a longitudinal axis, longitudinally opposite end portions and a top surface, at least three longitudinally spaced jam lugs joined to the base to extend above the top surface, the three jam lugs including a first and a second jam lug and an intermediate jam lug longitudinally intermediate the first and second jam lugs, each of the jam lugs at least one of alone and in combination with the base having a generally V-shaped notch, the intermediate jam lug notch opening transversely outwardly, the first and second lug notches opening transversely outwardly in a direction opposite the opening of the notch of the intermediate jam lug and on the transverse opposite side of the longitudinal axis from that of the notch of the intermediate jam lug to be transversely offset from the notch of the intermediate jam lug, a hook lug mounted to the base longitudinally opposite the first jam lug from the intermediate jam lug and having a cutout opening transversely outwardly in the ~~same~~ direction as opposite the opening of the notch of the first jam lug, the hook lug having an undersurface portion that is spaced from the base by a distance that is greater than the thickness of the cable, and an end lug joined to at least one of the base and the hook lug longitudinally opposite the hook lug from the first jam lug, the end lug having an aperture extending transversely therethrough for having the cable extended therethrough, the entire aperture being transversely offset from the cutout in the same direction that the first jam lug notch is offset from the cutout.

2 (Previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein the jam lugs are parallel to one another.

3 (Currently amended). The device of claim 1 wherein each of the jam lugs has an undersurface that at least in part defines the respective notch and extends diagonally outwardly from the base at an acute angle

in overlapping relationship to the base and the base has longitudinally opposite ends and the end lug is joined to one of the base ends.

4 (Previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein each of notches is at least in part defined by a base top surface portion underlying the respective jam lug undersurface and the end lug aperture is at a higher elevation than the base top surface portion.

5 (Currently amended). The device of claim 1 wherein a second hook lug is joined to the base longitudinally opposite the second jam lug from the intermediate lug and the jam lugs and hook lugs are joined to the base in longitudinally spaced relationship with each each of these lugs being spaced about the same longitudinal distance from the adjacent lug.

6 (Currently amended). The device of claim 1 wherein a second hook lug is mounted to the base longitudinally opposite the second jam lug from the intermediate jam lug and ~~having~~ has a cutout opening transverse outwardly in the same direction as the opening the notch of the ~~second~~ intermediate jam lug.

7 (Previously presented). The ~~cable-clamp device~~ of claim 1 wherein the base has a generally planar bottom surface and a first elongated chisel point ridge joined to the bottom surface to depend therefrom, the chisel point ridge having surfaces that converge toward one another in a direction away from the planar surface.

8 (Previously presented). The device of claim 7 wherein the base has longitudinally elongated side surfaces and end surfaces and the chisel point ridge has a transversely elongated portion and a longitudinally elongated chisel point ridge portion.

9 (Previously presented). The device of claim 8 wherein the base has a second elongated chisel point ridge joined to the bottom surface to depend therefrom, the second chisel point ridge having horizontally elongated surfaces that converge toward one another in a direction away from the bottom surface, the second chisel point ridge being joined to the base bottom surface longitudinally remote from the first ridge, the base having a vertical screw mounting aperture adjacent each of the chisel point ridges.

10 (Currently amended). A cleat device mountable to a supporting structure for having a cable or rope that supports a load laced thereto, comprising a base having a longitudinal axis, longitudinally opposite ends and a top surface, at least three longitudinally spaced jam lugs joined to the base to extend above the top surface, the three jam lugs including a first and a second jam lug and an intermediate jam lug longitudinally intermediate the first and second jam lugs, each of the jam lugs having a lug jaw portion that has an undersurface extending diagonally and intersecting with the base to diverge away from the base at an acute angle of about 20 to 40 degrees to open transversely outwardly in overlapping relationship to the base, the intermediate jam lug undersurface opening outwardly transversely in the opposite direction of the opening of the undersurfaces of the first and second jam lug undersurfaces, the intersection of the undersurface of the intermediate jam lug being transversely offset from the intersection of the first and second lug undersurfaces with the base in the direction of the opening of the intermediate lug undersurface, a hook lug joined to the base in longitudinally spaced relationship to the first jam lug and being longitudinally opposite the first jam lug from the intermediate jam lug, the hook lug having a cutout opening outwardly in a direction opposite the opening of the first jam lug undersurface, the hook lug having an undersurface portion in spaced overlapping relationship to the base and an arcuate portion intersecting with the hook lug undersurface portion and the base, the intersection of the hook lug arcuate portion with the base being transversely offset from the intersection of the first jam lug undersurface with the base in a transverse direction opposite the opening of the first ~~cleat~~ jam lug undersurface opening and an end lug joined to at least one of the base and the hook lug longitudinally opposite the hook lug from the first jam lug and having a wall portion defining a transverse aperture extending therethrough, the wall portion being transversely offset from the hook lug arcuate portion of the base in a direction that the first jam lug undersurface opens outwardly.

11 (Canceled).

12 (Currently amended) The cleat device of claim 10 wherein the undersurface of each of the jam lugs is defined by at least two longitudinally spaced, transversely extending lug ridges and that the base has a surface portion in spaced lapped relationship to each of the jam lug undersurfaces with at least one transverse ridge.

13 (Previously presented). The cleat device of claim 10 wherein the end lug has an edge surface that is transversely most closely adjacent to the intersection of the arcuate portion with the base and has an edge surface that extends longitudinal and at a general right angle to the base and has the aperture opening therethrough, the end lug edge surface being transversely offset from the intersection of the arcuate portion with the base in the direction of the opening of the first lug undersurface.

14 (Currently amended). The ~~cable clamp~~ device of claim 10 wherein the base has a bottom surface portion and first and second elongated chisel point ridge portions extending downwardly of the bottom surface portion, at least one of the chisel point ridge portions extending longitudinally and the other of the chisel point ridge portions extending transversely.

15 (Previously presented). The device of claim 14 wherein each of the chisel point ridge portions has horizontally elongated surfaces that converge in a downward direction away from the bottom surface.

16 (Currently amended).[,] A cleat device mountable to a supporting structure for having a cable or rope that supports a load laced thereto, comprising a base having a longitudinal axis, longitudinally opposite ends, a top surface and a generally planar bottom surface, at least three longitudinally spaced jam lugs joined to the base to extend above the top surface, the three jam lugs including a first and a second jam lug and an intermediate jam lug longitudinally intermediate the first and second jam lugs, each of the jam lugs at least one of alone and in combination with the base having a generally V-shaped notch, the intermediate jam lug notch opening transversely outwardly, the first and second lug notches opening transversely outwardly in a direction opposite the opening of the notch of the intermediate jam lug and on the transverse opposite side of

the longitudinal axis from that of the notch of the intermediate jam lug to be transversely offset from the notch of the intermediate jam lug, a hook lug mounted to the base longitudinally opposite the first jam lug from the intermediate jam lug and having a cutout opening transversely outwardly in the ~~same~~ direction as opposite the opening of the notch of the first jam lug, the hook lug having an undersurface portion that is spaced from the base by a distance that is greater than the thickness of the cable, and an end lug joined to at least one of the base and the hook lug longitudinally opposite the hook lug from the first jam lug, the end lug having an aperture extending transversely therethrough for having the cable extended therethrough and elongated first and second chisel point ridge portions joined to the base bottom surface to extend away therefrom in a direction away from the top surface and extending horizontally relative to one another at an angle other than 180 degrees.

17 (Previously presented). The device of claim 16 wherein the base has longitudinally opposite first and second end portions, a mounting screw apertures extending vertically therethrough adjacent each end portion, the ridge portions including a longitudinally extending portion adjacent each of the mounting screw apertures and a transversely extending portion adjacent each of the mounting screw apertures.

18 (Previously presented). The device of claim 17 wherein each of the ridge portions has downwardly converging first and second surfaces with the first surface intersecting with the base bottom surface and extending at an obtuse angle relative to the base bottom surface and the second surface intersecting with the base bottom surface extending at about right angles to the base bottom surface, the intersection of the ridge portion first surface being more remote from the adjacent mounting screw aperture than the intersection of the ridge portion second surface with the base bottom surface.